

## How to Hire a Surveyor

Property owners will often need to hire a surveyor to do an elevation Certificate (EC) or to help them file for a Letter Of Map Amendment (LOMA). Community officials are sometimes asked to recommend a surveyor. That creates a problem for community officials who may want to recommend a surveying company they know is good but don't want the surveying companies they don't recommend to complain to the governing body.

We suggest that when someone needs to hire a surveyor that they visit the website for the Kansas Society of Land Surveyors: <http://ksls.com/>

On the right hand side of the home page there is a blue box that says, "Find a Surveyor". Click on the "Get Started" button to get a list of survey companies that do work in Kansas. Find one on the list with office locations near you. You can click on the name of a company to get more information.

When calling surveyors we suggest that property owners be smart consumers and ask a few questions. Price is always a consideration. The experience of the survey company is a most important consideration. Ask if they have experience with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) forms such as LOMAs. Consider calling the next surveyor on the list if you are told they haven't ever done a LOMA or EC before.

There are times when speed is an important consideration.

There could be a mortgage loan closing that is being held up while waiting on a survey. Certainly good to ask how soon a survey could be done of your property. For those needing a LOMA before a deadline, ask if the surveyor is signed up for the FEMA eLOMA program. The eLOMA program allows surveyors to turn in LOMA documents electronically for automatic approval. Surveyors who have signed up for the program have gotten LOMAs approved in as little as three hours.

There are a lot of great companies that do survey work in Kansas. You'll easily find one by doing a little research. Remember to be a smart consumer and ask a few simple questions before you hire someone to do a survey of your property.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Kansas Society of Land Surveyors (KSLs). The header features the KSLs logo on the left, the text "KANSAS Society of Land Surveyors" in the center, and a login section on the right with fields for "Email" and "Password", a "LOGIN" button, and a "Forgot password" link. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Home, About, For the Public, Resources, Careers, Education, Foundation, Store, and Members. The main content area is divided into several sections: a large image of a surveyor using a tripod-mounted instrument on a grassy field; a "Our Mission" section with text about the organization's goals and a link to "About KSLs"; an "Upcoming Events" section listing "Kansas Minimum Standards Online Class" (August 03, 2015) and "KSLs Charitable Foundation Clay Shoot" (October 22, 2015); a "Become a Member" section with a list of membership benefits; and a "Find a Surveyor" section with a search bar and a "GET STARTED" button.